

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9850

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

S E C R E T USUN 1164

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN AG

SUBJ: SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION: CHANGE OF VENUE

1. TWO SECRETARIAT SOURCES HAVE INFORMED US THAT ONE MAJOR REASON FOR WALDHEIM'S VISIT TO ALGIERS WAS TO ATTEMPT TO DIS-SUADE ALGERIANS FROM THEIR ALLEGED DECISION TO MOVE TO SHIFT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION FROM NEW YORK TO ALGIERS. ONE OF OUR SOURCES SAYS ALGERIAN COUNSELOR TALEB-BENDIAB "VIRTUALLY CONFIRMED" TO HIM THAT ALGERIANS INDEED PLAN THIS SHIFT.

2. SOURCE THINKS THIS REPORT HAS ALREADY PASSED TO ENOUGH EOPLE TO MAKE IT LIKELY STORY WILL SURFACE IN PRESS HSORTLY.

3. COMMENT: THIS KIND OF RUMOR WOULD TEND TO BECOME SELF-FULFILLING UNLESS ALGERIANS STIFLE IT PROMPTLY. WE PREDICT NON-ALIGNED WOULD GREET PROPOSAL ENTHUSIASTICALLY, ESPECIALLY IF IT PUBLICLY KNOWN THAT DC'S, PARTICULARLY US, STRONGLY OPPOSED. APART FROM OTHER DISADVANTAGES, DECISION FOR ALGIERS VENUE WOULD GIVE RADICAL NON-ALIGNED STRONG PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST AND ENHANCE THEIR MILITANCY. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONSIDER WEIGHING IN WITH ALGERIANS PROMPTLY AT RESONSIBLE LEVELS.
BENNETT

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